(ii) Participation in overseas Conferences/Seminars of Scientific/ technical/educational nature;

(iii) Specialised training/study tours/Apprenticeship training;

(iv) Medical treatment/check-up/ consultation abroad; and

(v) Studies abroad;

In excess of the prescribed scales and/or the duration of the visit abroad without prior approval of RBI provided they are satisfied about the bonafides of the application and need for release of exchange in excess of the prescribed scales.

(d) As already stated at (b) and (c) above, authorised dealers can release foreign exchange for various purposes without any ceiling. This has come into effect from 5th July, 1995.

Review of Policies on Power Sector

1045. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Working Group has urged the Central Government to review its policies concerning power sector;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Union Government thereto;

(c) whether the role of private sector in power sector has been a controversial issue since the past few months; and

(d) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI URMILA BEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL): (a) and (b) National Working Group on Power Sector in their letter submitted to Hon'ble Members of Parliament regarding the "New Power Policy of the Government of India" have raised certain issues on the private power policy. These have been clarified in a publication brought out by the Ministry of Power—"The Legal and Policy Framework of Pirvate Power Development—Facts and Clarifications", which was widely circulated including among the Hon'ble Members of Parliament.

(c) Even though the private power policy has been one of the much debated topics in the recent months, it has not been a controversial issue.

(d) Does not arise.

Loans Disbursed under IRDP and DRI scheme

1046. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of persons (families) granted loans under IRDP and DRI Scheme against target in 1993-94, 1994-95; and

(b) what is the amount disbursed under IRDP and DRI Scheme during 1993-94 and 1994-95?

THE FINANCE MINISTER (SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH): (a) and (b) The number of families assisted and the amount disbursed under Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP) during the year 1993-94 and 1994-95 are furnished below: